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## **GO SERV ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF NEW WEB SITE**

*New Service Connects Californians to Local Volunteer Opportunities*

**SACRAMENTO** – Governor Gray Davis’ Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) announced the launch of its new Web site, a highlight of which is an easy and effective way for Californians to connect to volunteer opportunities in their own communities.

“One positive outcome of September 11 was a renewed interest in service and volunteering,” said Chuck Supple, Executive Director of GO SERV. “People are looking for ways to serve in their communities, and with the launch of [www.goserv.ca.gov](http://www.goserv.ca.gov) we have given them an incredible tool to do exactly that.”

“It’s the next patriotic step after putting a flag on your car,” said Supple.

Volunteer Here, a section of the Web site, links users to opportunities and information about AmeriCorps or to an up-to-the-minute database of opportunities powered by VolunteerMatch, a nonprofit organization based out of San Francisco that specializes in connecting potential volunteers with opportunities.

The user can choose from thousands of different opportunities, nationwide or in their community, simply by entering their zip code into a field. Volunteer organizations can just as easily register their program into the database to solicit volunteers from the site. This tool has the capability of matching hundreds of thousands of Californians with volunteer opportunities.

“It’s matchmaking for connecting people who care with places to serve,” Executive Director Supple said. “It’s the way individuals can put the new American spirit into action.”

The James Irvine Foundation and the California Wellness Foundation have contributed a total of \$70,000 for this Web site.

The launch of GO SERV’s Web site and VolunteerMatch tool coincides with President Bush’s State of the Union address, where he is expected to announce the expansion of the AmeriCorps program and reemphasize ideals of community service.

The GO SERV Web site is a branch of Governor Davis' "MyCalifornia" homepage (at <http://my.ca.gov>), California's top-rated Internet portal. "MyCalifornia" has been named

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## **GO SERV ANNOUNCES WEB SITE LAUNCH 2-2-2-2**

the most user-friendly state Web site in America in a recent study conducted by researchers at Indiana University-Bloomington on behalf of the PricewaterhouseCoopers Endowment for The Business of Government.

The site links Californians to services with the Department of Motor Vehicles, allows users to book reservations at State parks and provides traffic and weather notifications on hand-held devices, among other beneficial services.

"Governor Davis' MyCalifornia Web site was designed to answer the question—How can the State of California help me? Now, it can also answer--How can I help California?"

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